

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 1 and 2 by labeling each as prior art.

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner objected to the abstract for being longer than 150 words; objected to the drawings; rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C § 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter; rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph for failing to distinctly point out and particularly claim the inventive subject matter; rejected claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,926,178 to Kurtenbach ("*Kurtenbach*") in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2004/0250217 to Tojo et al. ("*Tojo*"); and objected to claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable.

By the present amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, and 13 and cancel claims 2, 6, and 10 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-13 remain pending.

Applicants amend the abstract in view of the Examiner's objection. Accordingly, the Examiner should withdraw the objection to the abstract.

Applicants submit replacement drawings in view of the Examiner's objection to Figures 1 and 2. Accordingly, the Examiner should withdraw the drawing objections.

The Examiner rejected independent claim 13 under 35 U.S.C § 101 as being directed to software per se. Applicants traverse this rejection. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants amend claim 13 to recite, "[a] computer readable media storing a computer program, that when run on a processor causes the processor

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

to perform a method.” Accordingly, claim 13, as amended, is directed to statutory subject matter and the Examiner should withdraw the rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C § 101.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, and 13 under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention for reciting limitations with insufficient antecedent basis, and rejected claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11 as being dependent upon those rejected claims. Applicants amend claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, and 13 and submit that the claims now particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Accordingly, the Examiner should withdraw the rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kurtenbach* in view of *Tojo*. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 to include the subject matter from allowable dependent claims 2, 6, and 10. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 5, 9, and 13 are now allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, and 12 depend from one of allowable claims 1, 5, and 9. Accordingly, claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, and 12 are also allowable over prior art of record.

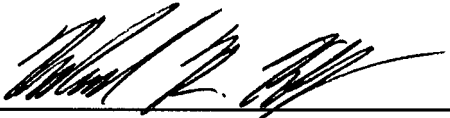
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 14, 2007

By: 
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Attachments: Replacement Drawing Sheets (2 sheets).